

FEBRUARY 13, 2003

SCHAKOWSKY SECURES FUNDS FOR CRITICAL PROJECTS IN 9TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) was successful in securing funds for critical projects in the 9th Congressional District as part of the massive appropriations bill approved by Congress. The Omnibus appropriations bill funds the government through September 30, 2003.

Schakowsky, however, did not support the final version of the legislation since it cuts funding for essential domestic needs in community policing, housing, education and job training. The bill also fails to adequately fund critical homeland security needs and includes provisions that threaten the environment and public lands.

Below is a list of the projects in the 9th Congressional District receiving funding:

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\$1,000,000 for Morton Grove

Funds for this project will be used for a transportation/commercial corridor improvement project. The project will improve vehicular circulation and characteristics of the Dempster Street roadway. More than 40,000 vehicles travel the Dempster Commercial Corridor daily. The Illinois Department of Transportation has designated the portion of Dempster Street that runs through the Village of Morton Grove as a Strategic Regional Arterial route.

"The Dempster Commercial Corridor Improvement project is a congestion mitigation initiative that will increase safety and reduce travel time for commuters and shoppers on a major Illinois roadway. I am very pleased that Congress doubled the original of \$500,000," Schakowsky said.

\$300,000 for the Palliative Care Center & Hospice of the North Shore-Evanston

Funds will be help Palliative Care Center and Hospice of the North Shore (PCCHNS) in Evanston to expand its facilities in order to continue meeting community needs. PCCHNS has completed the design phase for a new administrative and clinical facility and the new building will include specialized facilities for counseling of families and children, staff and volunteer training, medical community education, a community library and resource center, as well as office space for 400 staff and volunteers to work efficiently and cost effectively on behalf of patients and families.

"Palliative Care Center and Hospice provides compassionate, state-of-the-art care and services to north and northwest Cook and the Lake counties in Illinois and its innovative palliative care umbrella offers a model for end of life care nationwide," Schakowsky said.

This community based non-profit health care organization provides services in any setting and at any stage of life in which their services can promote independence, provide comfort and offer support. PCCHNS has been a leader in the movement to improve care of the seriously ill, aging and dying and, as such, educate the public, mentor other health care providers, conduct research and advocacy at the local, state and national levels.

\$90,000 for Family Focus in Evanston

The funds will be used by Family Focus of Evanston to make the community center compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"For the past 25 years, Family Focus has enriched and empowered the lives of many people in Evanston. Our community is greatly served by the numerous programs and services provided at the Family Focus Center and I am proud that this important facility will become even more accessible," Schakowsky said.

\$900,000 for Northwestern University's Institute for Proteomics and nano-biotechnology
The funds will be used to help pay for constructions of a new facility to house Northwestern University's Institute for Proteomics and Nanobiotechnology. The new Institute will bring together diverse disciplines to develop the molecular health science required to understand and control life processes at the single-molecule level for the purpose of improving medical treatment and human health.

Some of the significant outcomes expected from this research include: decontamination strategies for bioterrorism agents and environmental toxins; nanobionic interfaces between the living neurons and electronic devices; treatments for neurodegenerative disorders; diagnostic and therapeutic agents for colon, prostate, and breast cancers; fabrication of biomaterials for protecting soldiers; and remediation of environmental toxic metals such as mercury and lead.

\$200,000 for Equip for Equality- proposal for "Independent Abuse & Death Investigation Unit"

The funds will be used by Equip for Equality, a not-for-profit legal advocacy organization in Illinois, to maintain a national demonstration project to document the impact of an independent abuse and death Investigation Unit.

"The goal of the project is to demonstrate the contribution an independent, non-governmental protection and advocacy system can make to enhance existing state systems charged with investigating serious incidents of abuse and neglect. These funds will help maintain that critical project," Schakowsky said.

Equip for Equality is a private not-for-profit legal advocacy organization designated by Governor Thompson in 1985 to implement the federally mandated protection and advocacy (P&A) system to safeguard the rights of people with physical and mental disabilities, including developmental disabilities and mental illnesses, in Illinois. It is the only comprehensive statewide advocacy organization for people with disabilities and

their families. All individuals with a disability in Illinois (as defined by the ADA) are eligible for Equip for Equality's services, including children, senior citizens, and individuals in state-operated facilities, nursing homes, and community-based programs.

\$500,000 Loyola University - Nurse Training Laboratories

The funds will be used by Loyola University of Chicago to upgrade and supply equipment for three nursing laboratories already on campus. One of the laboratories will conduct research to improve the quality of life for persons with chronic illnesses. A second practical laboratory will educate nurses in new healthcare technologies. And the third will train student nurses in basic competencies, especially information management. Funds will be used for computers, specialized research equipment, and related telecommunications and electrical upgrades and will enable Loyola to expand its activities in the areas of diabetes, asthma, heart disease, cancer, lung disease, and spinal injury.

"Given the serious shortage of qualified nurses and the need to provide students with state of the art training equipment, I believe that these improvements will make a substantial difference in the ability to provide quality health care," Schakowsky said.

\$125,000 for Columbia College to create a Center for Women's Studies

The funds will be used by Columbia College Chicago to establish a Center for the Study of Women in Media.

"Columbia College is a leading institution with a creative tradition dedicated to the study of the arts and media. Building on that tradition, the Center for the Study of Women in the Media and Arts will examine cultural and social factors that contribute to the development of creative work among women," Schakowsky said.

The Center will support the research of College faculty, students and visiting scholars on the influence of women on the evolution of the arts and media around the world; compile and distribute teaching resource materials on women in the arts and media and the work of women artists for pre-K through college use; organize forums and public programs; and host a visiting woman artist or scholar at the College who will teach and produce work or research related to the Center's purpose.